

JOHNS POND (Mashpee)

General Information:

This 243-acre natural kettlehole pond has an average depth of 23 feet and a maximum depth of 65 feet. Transparency is very good, extending to 18 feet, and aquatic vegetation is scarce, limited primarily to the cove areas at the pond's southern end. The bottom is composed primarily of sand, although there are some areas of rubble and gravel. The shoreline is developed with residential homes and beaches. The pond drains into the Childs and Quashnet Rivers.

This pond is located just southeast of Ashumet Pond and the Otis Air National Guard Base. The Public Access Board provides a paved boat ramp, suitable for launching light trailer boats, car top boats and canoes. There is parking for approximately 10 vehicles. The ramp is located on the northwest corner of the pond off of Hooppole Road. Johns Pond can be reached by taking Route 28 south from the Bourne Bridge, then heading east on Route 151. A left onto Ashumet Road (just after the intersection of Route 151 and Sandwich Road) leads to Hooppole Road.

Fish Populations:

Several fisheries surveys conducted during 1991 and 1992 recorded 11 species present: largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, rainbow trout, brook trout, alewife, yellow perch, white perch, banded killifish, tessellated darter, brown bullhead and golden shiner.

Fishing:

Johns Pond is annually stocked in the spring and fall with brook and rainbow trout. These can be taken with the usual assortment of trout baits, flys and lures. Look for the trout in the 27 to 34 foot depth range during high summer.

This pond is also an excellent and heavily fished bass pond containing good populations of both smallmouth and largemouth bass. Abundant forage is present in the form of sea-run alewives, which make their way up the Childs and Quashnet Rivers from Waquoit Bay and Vineyard Sound. The abundant alewives translate into good growth rates for bass.

Recent concerns over possible contamination of the pond by pollution from the Otis Air Force Base has led to extensive sampling of this pond for contaminants. While testing up until now has revealed no contamination, anglers would be prudent to avoid making bottom dwelling fish (such as bullheads) from this pond a steady part of their diet. Due to their limited amount of time in the pond, trout should be regarded as safe to eat.

April 1993